REMARKS

I. THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 is cancelled and claim 2 is amended. Support for this amendment can be found on page 3, line 36, to page 4, line 1, page 11 lines 2-5, and page 24, lines 16-17, of the present specification.

II. THE SPECIFICATION

The final Office Action maintains the objection to the specification as containing informalities. In response, Applicants submit that the amendment to the specification obviates any basis for the objection thereto. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification are respectfully requested.

III. THE REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

A. THE REJECTION OVER WALKER ET AL., PIRTTILA ET AL., WO0162801 AND NASLUND ET AL.

The final Office Action maintains the rejection of claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11 and 14-16 as being anticipated by Walker et al., J. Neuropathol. Exp. Neurol., 377-383 (1994); Pirttila et al., J. Neurol. Sci., 127:90-95 (1994); WO0162801; and Naslund et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references disclose the claimed invention for the reasons discussed below.

Walker et al.

Walker et al. only discloses antibody 10D5, and kappa light chain (whole IgG and/or Fab fragments) to amino acids 1-16 of Aβ. The antibodies of Walker are used against native Aβ, which is in contrast with the presently claimed antibodies which do not cross-react with full length Aβ1-40/42. There is no teaching in Walker et al. towards antibodies as presently claimed that specifically recognizes EVHHQ-C and/or EVHHQKI-C or EVRHQ-C and/or EVRHQKL-C sequence from Aβ11-x peptide and that are negative on full length Aβ1-40/42 (present specification page 11, lines 2-5).

Pirttila et al.

Pirttila et al. discloses e monoclonal antibodies 4G8 and 6510 which are specific for Aβ (Abstract Pirttila et al.). These antibodies are used to detect soluble Aβ (sAβ). The antibody 6E10 recognized both sAβ derivatives and secreted βAPP derivatives and 4G8 recognized soluble Aβ -peptides. Pirtilla et al. does not teach nor suggest monoclonal antibodies as

presently claimed that specifically recognizes EVHHQ-C and/or EVHHQKI-C or EVRHQ-C and/or EVRHQKL-C sequence from Aβ11-x peptide and that are negative on Aβ peptide.

WO 01/62801

WO 01/62801 discloses monoclonal antibodies binding specifically to peptide comprising amino acid 13--28 of the Aβ peptide. This antibody is used to bind and sequester Aβ40 peptide. WO 01/62801 does not disclose antibody that bind to Aβ11-x peptide without cross-reacting with Aβ1-40/42 peptide.

Naslund et al.

Naslund et al. disclose the determination of primary structures and relative abundances of the purified Aβ variants by N-terminal microsequencing and electrospray-ionisation mass spectrometry. Immunoblotting of the chromatography fractions was performed using 6E10 directed against residues 1-16 of Aβ for detecting the containing monomeric Aβ. The antibody in Naslund detects total Aβ peptides. Naslund et al. does not teach an antibody as presently claimed, which does not cross react with full length Aβ peptide.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5, 8-11 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are respectfully requested.

B. THE REJECTION OVER SOLOMON ET AL.

The final Office Action maintains the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 8 and 14-16 as being anticipated by Solomon et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 93:452-455 (1996). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that Solomon et al. does not disclose the claimed invention for the reasons discussed below.

Solomon et al. only teaches about immunocomplexes formed between mAb AMY-33 (recognize epitope 1-28 of βA4) and βA4 (synthetic Aβ1-40), or between mAb 6F/3D (recognize epitope 8-17 of βA4) and βA4 and their effect in suppressing β-amyloid aggregation. This document is completely silent on a antibody as presently claimed which detects Aβ11-x peptide while being negative for Aβ1-40/42 peptide.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5, 8 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are respectfully requested.

IV. THE REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-5, 8, 9, 11 AND 13-16 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The final Office Action maintains the rejection of claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Huse et al., J. Biol. Chem., 277:16278-16284 (2002), in

view of Walker et al., J. Neuropathol. Exp. Neurol., 53:377-383 (1994), and WO0162801. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that Huse et al. does not disclose the claimed invention for the reasons discussed below.

Huse et al.

Huse et al. disclose monoclonal antibodies BNT77 directed against amino acid 11-16 of Aβ, 4G8 directed against amino acid 18-24 of Aβ and BAN50 directed against amino acid 1-10 of Aβ . Huse et al. teaches that BAN50 capture Aβ 1-40 and Aβ 1-42, BNT77 detects N-truncated and full-length peptides and 4G8 detects full length Aβ 1-40 as well as several fragment. In contrast with the presently claimed antibodies, all three antibodies in Huse et al. detect the full length Aβ peptide. Therefore Huse et al. is not anticipating the claimed antibodies which are only specific to the Aβ11-x peptide and do not cross react with full length Aβ1-40/42 peptide.

For the reasons discussed above, the remaining cited references do not disclose or suggest antibodies specific for the Aβ11-x peptides as defined in the present specification.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11 and 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

V. THE INDICATION OF ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants greatly appreciate the indication that claims 6, 7 and 10 are allowed or allowable if rewritten in independent form.

VI. CONCLUSION

Early consideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. Should the Office require anything further, it is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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